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Redevelopment Board Minutes 09-15-2003

Arlington Redevelopment Board

Minutes of September 15, 2003

Members Present: Roland Chaput

Nora Mann

Lynne Lowenstein

Ed Tsoi

Also Present: Kevin J. O'Brien, Secretary ex officio

Joey Glushko, Planner @ 8:30

Laura Wiener, Director of Housing @ 8:30

Roland Chaput called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. and asked Kevin O'Brien to introduce the review of a drawing of the proposed facade change at 397 Massachusetts Avenue. Kevin O'Brien explained that the drawing was submitted by Erik Kondo to ask the Board to confirm that the drawing represents the direction the Board gave him. If it does, he will hire an architect to produce the drawings the Board wants to see in order to determine whether or not the proposed changes meet the criteria in Section 11.06,b,1 regarding facade changes. The Board indicated that the drawing represented what was expected and cautioned that it might be very hard to match the brick color and a setback of the proposed addition or similar technique may be required.

The Board then considered the written request to replace the flagpole at 88 Park Avenue. The property is subject to a special permit and the condominium association's request to remove the flagpole was refused by the Board last year. On a motion by Ed Tsoi, seconded by Lynne Lowenstein, the Board voted 4-0 to permit the replacement of the pole with a thirty foot tall fiberglass pole.

Being ahead of schedule the Board signed the decision for an amendment to the special permit at 37 Drake Road for a change to the wireless communication facility (Docket 3222).

The Board asked the secretary ex officio to write to the owner of 820 – 830 Massachusetts Avenue to express the Board's appreciation for the handsome restoration of the facade of the building.

At 8:30 the Board began discussing the current draft of the RFP for the Symmes Hospital Site. An observation by Ed Tsoi that there may not be enough time for the selected developer to refine plans and prepare for the Annual Town Meeting led the Board to decide that the RFP should ask the applicants to propose a schedule that they could meet. Many other changes were discussed and the Board adjourned at 10:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. O'Brien